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Senate

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by Chaplain Charles H. Richmond, national chaplain of the American Legion, Edmond, OK. Pleased to have you with us.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Dr. Charles H. Richmond, national chaplain of the American Legion, offered the following prayer.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to You our Creator, Supreme Judge, and God of all nature we pray. As we pledge allegiance to our God and the flag of our country, may it not be a mere salute to custom or tradition, but a sincere desire to know and to follow Thy will. We need not ask for Thy presence, because You are always near. Instead we pray that we might have receptive hearts and minds, in tune with Thy will, so that we may listen to Your voice. The weight of responsibility is heavy. The Holy Scripture speaking of government says, "There is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God * * * for the authorities are God's servants who give their full time to governing." We give thanks for men and women who are willing, able, and committed to government service. Give our leaders the continued strength, integrity, courage, and wisdom not only to govern, make laws and policies, and direct our Government, but also to lead the American people in right living and patriotism. Give us the wisdom and conscience to know what is right, and the strength to do what is right, that we may truly pray "God bless America."

Mr. NICKLES addressed the Chair.

RECOGNITION OF THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able assistant majority leader, Senator NICKLES, is recognized.

Mr. NICKLES. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

DR. CHARLES H. RICHMOND, GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I thank the guest Chaplain, Dr. Charles Richmond from Edmond, OK, for a beautiful prayer. I also thank him for his service to our country as national chaplain of the American Legion, but also for his lifetime of dedication and service to God and country in his capacity as a leader.

He has given his time to the American Legion, first serving as chaplain of the Oklahoma American Legion Boys State for the past 5 years and, more recently, becoming the national chaplain of the American Legion in September 1996.

Dr. Richmond is an ordained Southern Baptist minister. He has touched the lives of the members of many churches throughout Oklahoma and across our country. Although now retired, he continues to be active in many church and religious activities.

Dr. Richmond has been an educator. He has also served as a public schoolteacher, a coach, a counselor, and a principal. In addition, he served as dean of men and later dean of student affairs at the University of Central Oklahoma for over a quarter of a century.

Dr. Richmond began his lifelong dedication to God and our country as a young man. In 1942, he entered World War II, the youngest person ever to enter the Chaplain Service. Only 30 days after entering the Army, he was sent overseas to Asia, where he devoted 2½ years to serving United States troops during the China, Burma, and India campaign. In 1950, he was reac-

tivated with the Oklahoma National Guard and served in Korea and Japan. While in Japan, he led the building of a Christian church which spawned 22 churches and missions over the next 10 years. Dr. Richmond later served 20 years as division chaplain of the Oklahoma National Guard.

Dr. Richmond has served the community of Edmond as president of the Edmond, OK, club of Rotary International. In March 1996, he was chosen to serve as the Oklahoma State Senate chaplain.

Today, I am honored to recognize Dr. Charles Richmond, a great American and Oklahoman, as guest Chaplain in the U.S. Senate.

Dr. Richmond, again, I thank you for an outstanding prayer, words of encouragement—one that I hope all of us will certainly pay attention to.

SCHEDULE

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I announce that following morning business today, the Senate will begin consideration of Senate Joint Resolution 5, the waiver resolution for the Barshefsky nomination, at 1 p.m. Under a previous order, there will be 3 hours of debate on the Hollings amendment and 1 hour of debate following the resolution itself. Following disposition of the amendment and the resolution, the Senate will proceed to a vote on the nomination of Charlene Barshefsky, to be U.S. Trade Representative. Therefore, Senators can expect several rollcall votes throughout Wednesday's session of the Senate.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

CHANGE OF ALLOCATION OF MORNING BUSINESS TIME

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the morning

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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